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SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCYREPORT NO. 

25X1

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 

INTELLIGENCE 25

COUNTRY Indochina

DATE DISTR. 6 Feb. 1952

SUBJECT French Preparations for Possible Withdrawal  
in Tonkin

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PLACE  
ACQUIRED NO. OF ENCLS.  
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1. There is no indication that the French are planning to withdraw from  
North Vietnam. However, certain preparations are currently being  
made with a view to evacuation of this area:

- a. The main evacuation beach head would be the Diem Dien (106-34, 20-33)-Dong Chau (106-34, 20-25) area.<sup>1</sup> The evacuation route  
would be via Nam Dinh and Thai Binh. The Red River, which is  
wide enough and deep enough to permit the movement of tanks  
and trucks, would be used to supplement the roads to reach Nam  
Dinh from Hanoi. Spare parts stockpiles are now being estab-  
lished at Nam Dinh.
- b. Repairs were begun on a Nam Dinh-Bui Chu (106-19, 20-18) road in  
December 1951. This road may be used as a supplementary evacua-  
tion route.
- c. The French have also established storehouses for ammunition,  
tires, and gasoline in the hills near Do Son (106-47, 20-42).  
Since December 1951 most of the material arriving at Haiphong  
has been sent to Do Son.<sup>2</sup>

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1.  Comment. French reserve forces consisting of four mobile  
regiments are stationed in this area.

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2.  Comment. Do Son might be used as a supplementary evacuation  
beach head.

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